



The Sun Shines on Cité Soleil



HSI: Make the Sun Shine on the Cité

Who we are:

Haiti Stabilization Initiative (HSI), established in 2007, is a US State Department Project targeting the most unstable urban areas of Haiti. An offshoot of this Project is the “Solèy Klere” program, specifically designed for Cité Soleil by a team of intermediary agencies, to bring stability to this difficult neighborhood.

Solèy Klere is advancing step by step; “first we must create conditions under which people can live and work in the aftermath of the violence that ravaged this community”, says HSI Coordinator David Becker.

This 20 million dollar program aims to bring about stability and create economic opportunity for the inhabitants of Cité So-

leil. Residents of the Cité already attest to their satisfaction and express their hope that other such projects will be implemented. “Thanks to Solèy Klere we no longer tread through mud, our roads have been paved”, declares one resident.

What we do:

HSI helps community groups to identify their needs and provides them with the means to implement the projects that meet those needs. These projects include infrastructure, education, good governance and security. This involves renovating police stations, the mayor’s office and public schools.

It includes building a new market, new parks and public meeting areas and renovating the Wharf Jérémie road. It also includes the implementation of a professional education program and extra curricular activities



Summary

“Why this Newsletter?”

By David Becker

HSI: Make the Sun Shine on the Cité

The renovated Wharf Jérémie road changes the face of La Saline.

Street vendors “Ti machann” of Cité Soleil finally have a roof over their heads.

2000 children attend “Camp Soleil”.

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Why this Newsletter?

By David Becker

The real story of Cité Soleil is that there is no “story” anymore. Only 18 months ago, Cité Soleil was the “land of lawlessness,” a bitterly poor neighborhood where criminals ruled; a lost cause. And in the international media, the image of Cité Soleil and the image of Haiti are one and the same. Over the last year the people of Cité Soleil have worked very hard to improve their lives and show a new face to the world. But quiet progress does not make many headlines. It was time to highlight the efforts of the many people and organizations working together in the Cité. This newsletter introduces “Solèy Klere” and HSI; future newsletters will highlight other efforts and endeavors to make Cité Soleil a new neighborhood. A lot has been happening - take a look inside and see!

for the youth of Cité Soleil and Simon Pelé. Some two million dollars have been allocated to the building of a police station and two sub stations in Cité Soleil. HSI aims to support the joint efforts of the government and the MINUSTAH in establishing the conditions necessary for good governance and economic growth in Cité Soleil.

Our Mission:

- Through the "Solèy Klere" Project, HSI aims to:
- support professional training for the police in Cité Soleil;
- support stabilization efforts through job creation, building of

infrastructure and developing sustainable employment;

- strengthen local authorities

HSI Partners:



NCSC: Facilitating Access to Justice in Cité Soleil

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) mission is to improve the judicial system through leadership and the services provided by courts worldwide. In Cité Soleil, NCSC in collaboration with MINUSTAH and ILAC, contributed to the creation of "Kay Jistis" and the renovation of the Tribunal de Paix. On January 11th 2008, "Kay Jistis" was inaugurated in Cité Soleil and was attended

by the American Ambassador, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Minister of Justice. This community project implemented in Cité Soleil aims to establish good governance and democracy. A clear message was sent out to residents of Cité Soleil: laws will be obeyed, impunity will no longer be tolerated, and victims will have a new voice. By now, the Jurisdictional Assistance Service of the Bar of Port-au-Prince has received 289 people in its offices. The Bar also offered introductory training courses on the legal system to 175 community leaders. Ninety members of the judicial body attend-

ed workshops to address the issue of improved coordination. Sixty four legal and health care professionals from Cité Soleil benefited from the expert advice of URAMEL on how to handle victims of violence. And lastly, 600 residents of Cité Soleil received training from GRIEAL on civic education as it applies to the justice system.



In support of the National Police.



DynCorps International provides expertise on matters of security to government, military and civilian agencies worldwide. In Cité Soleil DynCorps is undertaking the construction of the main police station, which is to be built on the spot known as Marché Boulos and renovated by the United States. DynCorps has also designed, in collaboration

with the Haitian National Police (PNH), a training program for police officers who will be assigned to this new station. The United States will also provide furnishings, uniforms and additional equipment for the police. Other sub stations will also be renovated in the coming months.



Haiti. Building Stability in the Cité.

CHF (Cooperative Housing Foundation) works in different communities worldwide to provide assistance to low and medium income populations in an effort to improve their living conditions. In Haiti, CHF International is currently managing large scale infrastructure and profes-

sional training projects in the context of the HSI Program. CHF has based this USAID funded KATA project on individual initiative and creativity that can be seen every day on the streets and marketplaces across the country. This "Konbit ak Tèt Ansanm" project consolidates stability through sustainable and immediate job creation, through development and maintenance of infrastructure, and through entrepreneurship programs and development of labor.



IOM • OIM

accompanies HSI in vulnerable communities.

HSI and IOM-PREPEP work with vulnerable communities as well as both regional and national authorities. This partnership aims to

establish basic infrastructure and promote the process of political stabilization, community recovery and development in Haiti. These programs are implemented by IOM with United States Government funding through its International Development Agency, USAID. The PREPEP program is being implemented throughout metropolitan Port-au-Prince (Bel Air, Delmas, La Saline and Martissant), Petit-Goave, St. Marc, Cap Haitien, Les Cayes, and

Gonaives. HSI operates in the 34 neighborhoods of Cité Soleil. Members of the HSI and PREPEP team meet every day with ministerial, community and municipal representatives to discuss and coordinate individual projects. IOM is building a second story for the Lycée La Saline as well as renovating the Lycée de Cité Soleil.



Solèy Klere à Cité Soleil

Before and After: Passerelle



Before and After: Boston National School



HSI Recent Achievements.

The newly renovated Wharf Jérémie Road changes the face of La Saline.



Thanks to the renovation of the Wharf Jérémie access road, the neighborhood has improved on many fronts: business, public transportation and several other areas of activity. “This brings us great satisfaction. We used to have difficulty getting around even after the slightest rainfall. The only solution was to wear big boots when leaving the house”, says Philibert Kesnel, a resident of La Saline.

Funded by the United States Government through its International Development Agency USAID, the renovation of this section of the road cost over 18 million gourdes and was a part of the HSI (Haiti Stabilization Initiative) Program. This work was carried out by ENAMEX Construction Firm under the supervision of LGL S.A. and implemented by CHF International.

The Wharf Jérémie is located in La Saline and is Haiti’s main port for internal trade. It is a center for economic activity in Cité Soleil as well as for the entire metropolitan region. “This commercial center represents an important source of revenue for many people. It serves populations from various departments

throughout the country, namely the West, the South, the North and the Grande Anse.”

“People used to avoid the Wharf because of the poor condition of the road. I think this is an enormous improvement”, explains a public transportation driver for the Carrefour Aviation – Wharf Jérémie route.

He then goes on to say that the neighborhood needs more similar investments that will generate jobs. In fact, the construction of this road in particular employed 375 people directly.

In the Market place of Cité Soleil a small retailer selling foodstuff cannot contain her satisfaction: “Thanks to this achievement there are many more buyers and we pay much

less to transport our goods”, she says.

The implementation of this project met several objectives. Over the course of six months it rehabilitated 982.75 linear meters of roadway, preparing the foundations and laying concrete paving blocks. This project also included the building of new drainage ditches and the repair and maintenance of existing ditches.

The rehabilitation of the wharf has served to strengthen the management of the internal trade port, consolidate the National Port Authority (APN) and improve the living conditions of the inhabitants of the region.

The “Ti Machann” of Cité Soleil have a roof over their heads at last.



Inaugurated on February 14th 2008, the new public market in Cité Soleil, on Route 9, is one of the major achievements of the Haiti Stabilization Initiative HSI Program.

The Public market in Cité Soleil has had a new face for a while now: a concrete surface, an enclosed space, painted inside and out and with a capacity to house

hundreds of “ti machann”; a drainage canal and a paved road around the premises, a reservoir and hygienic toilets set up outside. This modern building is in stark contrast with the old building ignored by the retailers who preferred the streets for displaying their wares.

The US government funded the building of this market which cost \$79,920.00 and which was implemented by the IOM-HSI Program. While attending the inauguration ceremony for

the new market last February, the Chargé d’Affaires of the United States Embassy, Mr. Thomas C. Tighe expressed his wish “that this clean and attractive space become the nerve center for the region and that it become a comfortable venue in which the residents of the area can carry out their daily commercial activities.” Mr. David Becker, Coordinator of the Haiti Stabilization Initiative expressed his wish “to create the conditions necessary for people to be able to live and work together” after the violence that ravaged Cité Soleil. The Haiti Stabilization Initiative Program aims to bring stability to fragile regions, especially Cité Soleil. Thanks to

the support of the American people and that of the various partners, the inhabitants of this commune can buy and sell their products in a more comfortable, clean and airy space from this day forward. “The market is an asset for the Cité”, says Exantus Jocelyn, a member of the commission created by the mayor’s office to manage the market. “Vendors used to sell their products in the streets but now they have a well equipped space to call their own”, adds Exantus who then goes on to say that the proper functioning of the market has yet to be undertaken. Several “Ti Machann” interviewed welcome the building of such a market. “I hope more public markets will be built”, states another resident of Cité Soleil.

2000 children attend “Camp Soleil”.



Approximately 2000 children attended the second annual “Camp Soleil”, a summer camp organized for the largest slum in the capital city. Launched on August 4th of last year, the camp ended with festivities on the 29th of August. “The camp allowed us to escape the daily doldrums and to understand that change must come from us”, says Laurent Beguing a camp monitor. Implemented by the Haitian Olympic

Committee (COH) and funded by the American Government through its Haiti Stabilization Initiative (HSI), the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and several other organizations such as the United Nations Fund for Children (UNICEF), IOM, and CHF International, the Camp Soleil Project is a part of the “Sports for Peace and Development” program. Forty four monitors and assistant monitors in three sites within Cité Soleil oversaw children ten to fourteen years old in the various disciplines offered such as handball, football, athleticism, basketball, volley ball, chess and judo. Positive outcomes are expected from this project according to Fritz Gérard Tong a member of the COH, who believes this summer camp should also be held in other formerly volatile neighborhoods like

Martissant and Solino. He underscored the fact that “in addition to sports training, these children learned tolerance; they learned to protect the environment and to fight against HIV/AIDS.”

At the end of the camp on August 29th, the organizers and the monitors drafted a positive report. “These are wholesome activities that can lead to the kind of progress that only sports can enable”, said Jessica Charles a young camp participant. On the last day, the 44 monitors and assistant monitors, the 2000 children and representatives of the organizing institutions got together at the Ste. Thérèse d’Avila school, one of the host venues of the camp. The other venues were the Foyer Culturel St. Vincent de Paul in the Boston neighborhood and the football field of Lintho 4.

In the next edition of our Newsletter:

- Summer school and FPN scholarships funded by USAID
- Microfinance (including a success story)
- Two news reports: Kay Jistis and Blvd. des Américains (Rte. Neuf).